REMARKS

Claims 1-6 have been amended. Claim 7 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1-6 are currently pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants request reconsideration of the documents that were not considered in the Information Disclosure Statement filed December 7, 2000. A translation of these documents is not readily available to Applicants.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and receipt of the priority document.

35 U.S.C. §§102 & 103

Claims 1-5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Mohaban (U.S. Patent No. 6,463,470).

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mohaban in view of Mandal (U.S. Patent No. 6,170,009).

The rejection of claim 7 under 35 USC 103 has been rendered moot by the cancellation of the claim without prejudice or disclaimer. The cancellation of this claim should not be interpreted as an acquiescence to the Examiner's rejection.

As set forth in amended claim 1, a method of transmitting a policy rule according to the present invention includes assigning a newly entered policy rule with an identifier and detecting a policy that depends on the newly entered policy rule or on which the newly entered policy rule depends. The newly entered policy rule is transmitted to the network node and if the detected policy rule has not been transmitted to the network node, the identifier thereof and the condition and action described therein are transmitted with the newly entered policy rule to the network node. If the detected policy rule has been transmitted to the network node, the identifier thereof is transmitted with the newly entered policy rule to the network node, but the condition and the action described therein are not transmitted. In amended independent claim 6, the method of transmitting a plurality of policy rules is set forth. In particular, all or part of the

policy with their assigned identifier rules are transmitted to the network node. Then it is determined whether the condition described in the policy rule to be removed is exclusive with the conditions described in other rules when removing at least one of the policy rules transmitted to the network node. Further, a request is transmitted to remove a policy rule with its identifier that is specified by the operator to the network node, provided the condition of the policy rule is exclusive.

As a result of the present invention, it is possible to operate with minimum policy rules and data sets to be converted. It is also possible to transfer only the identifier of the policy rule to the router instead of transferring the contents thereof when it is determined that the router already stores the policy rule. In this way, the data quantity that needs to be transferred can be minimized. As a result, it is possible to minimize traffic congestion and rule download time, as well as the time required for policy rule conversion. Further, policy control interruption can be eliminated or at least minimized in order to prevent routers from being overloaded. See page 56, line 14 to page 57, line

8 of the specification of the present application, for example.

Mohaban discloses a method for processing policy information using information structures. For example, Mohaban discloses that a given Policy Rule 810 can be a member of multiple QoSPolicyDomain objects 812 and that multiple Policy Rules 810 can be contained in a single QoSPolicyDomain object 812 (see col. 19, lines 22-32). However, the reference further states that for a complex policy rule, it is recommended that a QosPolicySimpleCondition object be constructed by attachment of qosPolicyVariable, qosPolicyConstant and qosPolicyValue auxiliary classes with the only exception to this rule being when one of these object is a reusable (e.g., resident in a repository) object. In this case it should not be attached, but rather a digtinguished name (DN) reference should be used instead (see col. 28, lines 34-41). Accordingly, Mohaban does not disclose the method of policy rule transmitting according to the present invention.

Mandal discloses a method and apparatus which is able to delete a policy. See, for example, column 7, lines 11-26 of the referenceand the flow chart of Fig. 7. However, neither

Mohaban nor Mandal disclose and mention the methods of transmitting policy rules as set forth in the claimed invention. Therefore, neither Mohaban nor the combination of Mohaban and Mandal anticipate or render obvious the invention set forth in independent claims 1 and 6 or dependent claims 2-5. Therefore, the Examiner should find claims 1-6 allowable over these references and the remainder of the art of record.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and reexamination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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